



LIBERATION NEWS SERVICE

JANUARY 10, 1970

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plus graphics material and

A SPECIAL PHOTO ESSAY ON THE STRIKING GE WORKERS

Cover photo: GE strikers link their struggle
 to national politics.

Photo by Mike Shuster / LNS.

Please pay your January bill.

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RAISE YOUR GLASS TO THE HARD WORKING PEOPLE

By Ralph Greenspan

LIBERATION News Service

ASHLAND, Mass. (LNS) -- "The company thinks it's God; they treat us like slaves."

"Half of the people are too scared to even make grievances."

"People have a hard time talking themselves into going in there everyday."

The GE **workers** at Ashland, Mass., are out on strike now, but even when there is no strike, the atmosphere in the plant is far from peaceful. There is a battle fought between the workers and the company every day. The company pushes the workers to produce more and more at a faster pace, without paying them any more. The foremen carry out the company policies: degrade the workers, divide them and pit them against each other, and harass them if they resist. In self-defense, the workers have to fight constantly to maintain their dignity and their sanity. And that fight goes on outside the factory when they try to maintain a living and raise families on the money GE pays them. For most of them, it's a fight that they can't escape from.

"It's very nerve racking; there are very few jobs that aren't nerve racking. They're all speeded up. The foreman will say that he'll put five people out of work tomorrow if they don't do so much."

Production is the governing principle in the plant -- the needs and safety of the people who make the products are left behind. A machine that stamps GE emblems onto metal parts was brought into the plant. It was built to be safe. To work the stamping mechanism, the machine operator had to use both hands to push two buttons on the front of the machine. That way he couldn't accidentally lose a finger while reaching under the stamper to replace the stamped part. Well, his foreman came along with an idea for speeding up the process. Tape one of the buttons down, and use your knee to punch the other one. This left the worker's hands free to move the parts under the stamper much faster.

A woman at Ashland who works a molding machine making plastic cases for clocks hurt herself when the machine was run too fast. The machine was

built to run at a certain rate. When she tried to push it faster it jumped its cycle and the mold door slammed shut. Her hand was crushed as she reached in to take out the molded plastic. She and the other women who run the molders risk crushed hands because they are trying to make plastic cases faster. They are paid for making a certain number of cases per day. If they can make more than that quota, then they can add a little to their \$2.25 an hour paychecks. And of course, they're encouraged to.

"They think women are a dime a dozen. Before 1967 it wasn't against the law to discriminate against women. GE would just say, 'Well of course we discriminate against women, every day. We have to, there's too many of them.'" Eighty per cent of the factory workers at Ashland are women, and they get paid less than men for doing jobs that are just as hard as and sometimes harder than what the men do. The company claims that it sets pay rates by the "skill, care and effort required" in a job. Yet it pays the men who sweep up the plant \$2.46 an hour while the women who do the tense work of assembling intricate clock parts at a very fast pace get paid \$2.25 an hour.

Rita Petrie is an assembler in the Ashland plant. She's married and has two children, one of them married. Rita has worked in factories for a long time, first a clothing factory and then a hat factory before coming to GE. Now she's an officer in the Ashland local. When she talks about GE she speaks slowly and bitterly. "The company says the women have the opportunity to earn incentive (extra pay for producing over the quota). If, by working their heads off, they manage to make any amount over the base rate, the company will change the operation and prevent them from making any incentive." The company is always looking for a simpler and faster method for the operations a worker performs -- anything to cut down the skill, care and effort. That way it can get away with paying them less. Rita talked about GE's army of "time study" men who come out into the factory to "study" the workers. "They make sure that you 'utilize your idle time,'

more...

so they'll take some operation like visual inspection (looking at the pieces) and replace that sixth-tenths of a second with something physical. Time study men don't even come out with a stop watch. They have this book which says it takes .03 seconds for you to move your right hand six inches. And they tell you that you have to do this in that amount of time. You can scream and holler and stomp your feet and they still say it's possible."

The foremen exploit every possible division among the workers to get them to produce more and to weaken their unity. The strength of that unity is a threat to the company's domination. A young man, a screw machine operator, sipped on his coffee in the strike trailer on a slow afternoon and talked about how GE operates. "They play the first shift against the second shift, and the second shift against the third shift. 'Why can't you do this, the first shift does it every day, the third shift has less people and they can put out more parts than you.'" Conflicts between departments come up because the company won't plan ahead and then makes the workers pay for its mistakes. "There's no provision for advance stock so if one department breaks down or some people are absent, the next day the next department has a part shortage situation. So they double up the load on the stock handlers, but instead of getting the work done, that stock handler will quit. He isn't getting paid enough for doing one assignment, so he certainly isn't going to do two. So if the women are going to do their job and not get in trouble for not producing, then they're running and trying to get their own stock."

Another game the company plays is to pit the skilled workers against the unskilled -- which is the same as the men against the women. In its new contract offer, GE wanted to give the skilled workers double the raise it offered to the rest. The company was hoping that the skilled workers wouldn't want to strike. But they had more to strike for than wages.

Just as GE tries to break up unity within the plant every day, this year it is trying to break up the two national electrical workers unions: the

IUE (International Union of Electrical Workers) and

the UE (United Electrical Workers). GE is demanding that the national contract be broken and that it be allowed to negotiate separately with each plant. This would give it complete control over the kind of contract it wanted to offer. GE wants to make national the power it already has inside the plant. There it doesn't give in when it doesn't want to.

"Women are told, if they don't like something to file a grievance." Rita leaned forward on her desk in the union office. Her voice was tired. "The first step of the grievance procedure is supposed to be just between the foreman and the employee. But the foreman immediately takes the grievance up to Mr. Baker's office (the 'employee relations' office) and gets his decision. Then if you don't like the answer from the first step, you go to the second step to Employee Relations. There you are with Mr. Baker again and he wants to know if you have proof that the foreman said this, proof that the foreman did this, at what hour did he do that? He doesn't believe that the foreman did it. And if you don't like his answer, then you go to GE's New York headquarters for the third step. This might be three months later. You meet Mr. Baker again sitting with Mr. Bickford (VP for employee relations), and they don't believe it. This is the way they dispose of it unless you have written proof, but where do you get it? By this time the employee is so frightened they say never mind."

But a worker can't even file a grievance until after he or she has carried out the foreman's orders. Bill, an old timer who had been with the Marines in China and Nicaragua, is a sweeper at the Ashland plant. Up until recently, though, he was a stock handler. His foreman had ordered him to move a large pile of boxes. So Bill started to take the top one off. But the foreman wanted him to pull the whole pile along the floor, all at once. Bill told him he just couldn't do it that way. The foreman stuck to his order. Bill pulled the crates. He also pulled his back out. A few weeks later when he was well enough to come back to work, he couldn't be a stock handler any more. He had to take a cut in pay.

and become a sweeper.

The company has lots of small ways of harassing people to keep them in line. "They got rules for everything," said one of the men in the strike trailer. He is a tool maker in the plant and, like everyone else, he doesn't like the way GE treats him. "They keep them filed away and they use them against people when they want to." To enforce the rules, the company gives out warning notices. If an employee gets four warning notices in a year, he or she can be fired.

People don't work at GE for fun. "At one time women went out to get a job because they wanted a second car or a new TV or something," Rita explained. "Now the women are out working because they need the money to keep the house going. They just have to have that money. Women that don't have to have that money won't work for General Electric. They come in, they stay a week, they see what they have to do and they leave."

It's not easy to raise a family on GE wages either. "Almost all of the men who work in there have at least a part time job somewhere else," said a man on a lonely afternoon picket line. And their wives usually hold down a full time job. A woman assembler took home \$3.60 more per week in 1964 than in 1968, because of higher taxes and cuts in the incentive rates. And that's not even counting how much less a dollar is worth now.

Rita told how she tried to send her daughter through college. "She went to work as a short order cook after school when she was sixteen. And she bought her own clothes, and her own pictures for graduation, she paid for her college boards, and things like that. I was putting away \$10 a week out of my pay for bonds. So when she started college I had \$1100 worth of bonds. But of course that was wiped out like nothing. She did two years, it just got to be too much. I didn't want her to quit but she could see that we were just sinking."

A lot of GE workers would rather not have to work at GE, but because of families and payments that build up and the job security that comes with seniority, many stay anyway. But a lot of younger workers know that they want to get out, and the turnover of young people is large. "If you've

been there less than five years, you can still get out, and you should," said one young picketer at Hudson Falls, N.Y. He wanted to look for a job in construction. "Young people think they won't stay with the company," said an older man who has worked with GE for 27 years. "But how many people started out working in a factory thinking they wouldn't retire there?"

Some of the young men are Vietnam veterans who take factory jobs while looking for better work. On a cold morning at Hudson Falls, one of them talked about his past. He squinted as smoke from the ash-can fire blew into his face. He said that he grew up on a farm and went to work for GE when he graduated from high school, he didn't like farm work. He was drafted not long after that and sent to Vietnam for two years. When he came back he went to work for GE again -- he's been there for five years. He spoke with pride of his 16 month old twin daughters.

"Working for GE is a lot like being in the service. They make you do a lot of bullshit for no reason and when you complain it's like talking to yourself. I've looked for another job. I had a couple of interviews but they weren't too good. I could go to college on the GI bill but I don't know what I want to do and I don't want to go to school just to go to school. I'll probably never know what I want to do. I guess I'll end up staying at GE if I don't find another job -- once you stay a while it's hard to leave."

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[Editor's Note: See photo essay on strikers in graphics section, starting on P-1.]

"CAPITALIST TOOL" ATTACKS NIXON

NEW YORK (LNS) -- "Can you figure out where the President thinks he -- we -- are going in Vietnam? I can't. Moderate troop withdrawals are followed by claptrap crap about not 'letting down' Saigon's military government... There is just no damn way to end our massive manpower involvement in Vietnam without simply ending it. Tossing temporary draft call reduction bones to students and relatively unsizable troop withdrawals as sops to the rest of the American people won't -- and damn well shouldn't -- provide the excuse for months and months more of chatter, clatter and young American deaths..." --Malcolm Forbes, publisher and editor of Forbes, "the capitalist tool," 30 (1974).

YOUNG LORDS BUSTED FROM PEOPLE'S CHURCH,
VOW TO RETURN

NEW YORK (LNS) -- The barricaded, barred and chained door of People's Church gave way to police hammering and chiseling at 4:10 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 7, and the Young Lords' 9-day occupation of the church, previously called First Spanish Methodist, in El Barrio (Spanish Harlem), was over -- temporarily.

The bust was peaceful, as the Lords had promised, for their side, that it would be. Sheriff William Kehl and eight of his unarmed deputies entered the church and told the 103 black, brown and white people inside that they were under arrest. "For serving the people, you're under arrest!" "Long Live People's Church!" "Power to the People!" -- these chants rang out as the people filed out into the bitterly cold morning air. About 50 of their supporters who had waited throughout the long night thawing freezing hands and feet in front of a blazing trashcan fire, had been pushed back a block from the church, far enough away so the police could be sure that they could not shout their solidarity to their arrested brothers and sisters. Five hundred police surrounded the church, blocking all access, and turning El Barrio into an armed camp.

Paddy wagons carried the people off to court where they were charged with civil contempt of the court injunction served Jan. 2 ordering them off the premises of First Spanish Methodist Church. Judge Saul Streit released the 103 on their own recognizance, stipulating that they agree not to reoccupy the church before the Jan. 26 hearing of the case. He did not make it a condition of their release that they obey the injunction's prohibition of demonstrations in front of the church. Lawyers for the Lords say that this part of the injunction is in clear violation of Constitutional rights of free speech and assembly.

It is an interesting indication of where New York's liberal Mayor Lindsay is at that his office strongly pressed for the police to enter People's Church to oust the Lords. Judging from the cops' bloody performance at the Nixon demon-

stration held at the Waldorf-Astoria here Dec. 9, there might well have been some busted heads and broken bones if the police had been sent into the church. But Sheriff Kehl, an officer of the court, had been so impressed by the Lords' repeated assertions that they did not want a violent confrontation with the police that he insisted that his deputies make the arrests.

It was a busy week for the sheriff. Forty supporters of the Lords, mostly white college students and drop-outs, staged a solidarity occupation of the Interchurch Center on Riverside Drive on Monday morning, Jan. 5. They took over the 14th floor offices of Bishop Lloyd C. Wicke, head of the Methodist Board of Missions, and the 19th floor office of another Methodist official, Dr. Henry Whyman, to demonstrate that the real control of First Spanish Methodist lies outside El Barrio. About 85 more supporters joined them within an hour and a half of their arrival. Methodist business was interrupted that day as the people took over a printing press to print leaflets demanding that the Lords be allowed to continue using People's Church and that the police be withdrawn from the black and brown community.

The Lords supporters stayed all night and refused to let the Methodists use the 14th floor the next day. The sheriff attempted to serve an injunction ordering them out, but he also was not allowed to enter. The people spent Tuesday leafletting the building and left early Wednesday morning when they heard the Lords bust was imminent.

First Spanish Methodist Church has not seen the last of the Young Lords. The Lords plan to continue their struggle until their demands for a breakfast program, daycare center and liberation school for the children of El Barrio are met. They are calling for the whole poor community and its supporters to go to the church for Sunday worship. They will not reduce the pressure on the church's reactionary Cuban minister, Dr. Humberto Carrazana, and his middle-class congregation until People's Church goes back to the people. As one Puerto Rican man shouted as he climbed into the paddy wagon "The cops can't occupy El Barrio forever!"

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[IMPORTANT NOTE TO EDITORS: Suggest you run this story along with the Young Lords story (Packet #223) which describes the Young Lords occupation's goals and accomplishments.]

LONG LIVE PEOPLE'S CHURCH!

BERKELEY TENANTS STRUGGLE WITH ROBBIE LANDLORDS
LIBERATION News Service

BERKELEY, Calif. (LNS) -- Three carloads of Alameda County Sheriffs drove up to the white-stuccoed mini-apartment house at 1860-16 Dwight Way. It was a Tuesday morning, Jan. 6.

They were accompanied by a big green moving van that had no license plates. Sixteen protesters and lots of plainclothes police watched the 12 sheriffs evict two families from the two-story building.

The landlord ran around snapping pictures as furniture and Christmas trees were hauled out of the apartments of a 27-year-old shoemaker, his wife and baby, and a young widow and her three children.

When the van, loaded with the hapless tenants' furniture, pulled away from the scene, a Berkeley Tenants Union organizer hopped on his motorcycle and followed it. After a while, the unmarked van stopped for a few minutes and then went on again. A few minutes later the motorcyclist was stopped by a police car -- somehow they had received a report of a stolen bike that was just like his.

This mystery book scene is the latest in a series of run-ins between the landlords and the Berkeley Tenants Union. The union, organized in the aftermath of the People's Park struggle, is striving to become the collective bargaining agent for Berkeley's tenants. In this incident, the tenants had been withholding rent because the heating wasn't working. (Berkeley gets pretty cold in the winter -- and one of the children had been repeatedly ill.) Several repairs had not been made.

The San Francisco Chronicle described one of the apartments -- "a tour of the drab apartment revealed that the toilet was in need of repair, at least two windows were broken, and one window was loose in its frame, allowing chilling breezes to blow through the small room," and remarked that the situation was similar in the other apartment. The landlord stubbornly denied any responsibility for maintaining the apartment.

In Berkeley, rents have gone up very fast,

as much as doubling in the last five years. Housing is getting scarcer and most of what's available is substandard. The old buildings are decaying and the new housing is shoddily constructed.

Although the Union lost this skirmish, it has been successful in other cases, and is building strength for a massive rent strike later this winter. In a large rent strike, the union will have two advantages: it can cut off rent from all the tenants of certain landlords, and it can tie up the courts so that the landlords cannot afford to lose the rent for the time it takes to evict the tenants.

The housing situation in Berkeley is not much different from the rest of the country, and the rent strike movement is certainly not new. Since the successful Harlem rent strikes of 1963-64, the movement has slowly spread across the country. Last year, 1,000 St. Louis strikers succeeded in getting their rents rolled back from an average level of 42% of their income to 25%. About 1,200 tenants in Ann Arbor, Mich., have been on strike for almost a year now.

The Ann Arbor Tenants Union and the National Tenants Organization have called a "national conference on students and the tenants' rights movement" to take place in Ann Arbor Feb. 20-22.

For further information on the conference, write to Ann Arbor Tenants Union, 1528 Students Activities Building, Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

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SETTLEMENT ENDS ITALIAN STRIKE WAVE -- TEMPORARILY
LIBERATION News Service

TURIN, Italy (LNS) -- The series of strikes that crippled almost every area of the Italian economy since September is over. Agreements between unions and management, affecting more than three million building, chemical and metal workers have been signed.

The gains the workers made in the contracts came despite the fact that Italy has always had the weakest industrial unions in Western Europe. Only 30 per cent of the metal workers throughout Italy belong to unions, and the number at FIAT in Turin, the largest industrial empire in Europe,

is under 10 per cent.

The strikes were marked, especially in Turin, by explosions of workers' energy and anger which the unions could not contain. A militant workers' movement grew up outside the unions. Workers stayed inside the factories when a strike was called, sending tremors of fear through the management about the safety of their machinery. The workers' movement began to throttle production by novel methods. The workers in one shop would go on strike, while other workers in that section of the factory would have nothing to do, but would still be entitled to a pay check.

The new contracts provide for a wage increase of 65 lire (about 10¢) an hour -- close to the 75 lire increase sought by the unions, but well below the 100 lire which the workers were pushing for. It is the first large wage increase for these workers since 1964, despite the rise in the cost of the living. The unions settled for a gradual reduction over the three-year contract period to the 40-hour five-day week; the workers had wanted this right away. There will also be an equalization of terms of sick pay for manual and clerical workers over the span of the contract.

The rights won in connection with union activity in the factory should lead to a stronger voice for the workers in union affairs, less control by feet-dragging union officials. Workers will be permitted to hold assemblies in the factory for 10-12 hours per year during working hours without loss of pay, and at any time outside working hours. Perhaps the most important right involves the election of shop stewards by the workers. Previously, union organization had been by committee, which in large factories had very little contact with the rank and file.

Two simmering issues in Italian industry, especially at Fiat plants, were not covered by the contracts -- speed-up and worker classification. Speed-up has been used extensively by Italian manufacturers since the 1950s to increase production while lowering costs. This allowed them to capture new markets -- without having to rely on technological innovation, as the strong unions forced corporations in other countries to do. The manufacturers' new markets were captured

at the expense of the workers, who had to produce ever-increasing amounts, without pay raises or improvements in working conditions.

FIAT attempted to compensate for loss of production during the wildcat strikes of May, June and July by speed-up; every time the company tried to speed up, however, the workers slowed down or stopped work altogether.

While the workers have been able to combat speed-up, they have found no weapons against classification of workers not only into "skilled" and "unskilled," but also into many groups within these two categories. The workers don't like this system of fragmentating their common interest. They insist that there should be only two classifications, and, as nothing was done during the negotiations to improve the situation, new conflicts between workers and management are very probable.

The contracts have been signed, but tension between workers and management remains so high that the slightest provocation could set off a new wave of strikes.

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SAN DIEGO UNDERGROUND PAPER HITS HARD,
FACES SURVIVAL FIGHT AGAINST LOCAL KINGPINS
LIBERATION News Service

SAN DIEGO, Calif. (LNS) -- An underground paper called the Street Journal has touched some raw nerves in San Diego, and is now fighting for its survival. The current war began last fall, when the Street Journal published a two-page expose on C. Arnholdt Smith, local millionaire and political kingpin.

The following is a report prepared by the people who put out the Street Journal. It tells of the attempt of the San Diego power structure to wipe them out. The people at the Street Journal are continuing to resist. Letters of support and money may be sent to San Diego Street Journal, 360 Fifth Av., San Diego, CA 92101.

* * *

Two weeks after the article [about C. Arnholdt Smith] appeared, curious things began to happen to the Street Journal, including bullets through our windows, death threats on the landlord's life,

(which led to our eviction), insane police busts, 24-hour surveillance of our newspaper offices and commune, harrassment by building and fire inspectors and two incidents of breaking and entry resulting in more than \$5,000 in damage by "vandals"

During the first year of publication, things had been extremely quiet for the Journal (then called the San Diego Free Press). Seldom did we suffer a hassle more grave than an arrest for blocking the sidewalk.

So when the wholesale campaign to intimidate us began in early November, it wasn't hard to identify the source. Our suspicions were confirmed when an intimate of the C. Arnholt Smith household informed us that when Smith saw the article, he immediately called James S. Copley, owner of the San Diego daily newspaper monopoly, and between them they agreed to "crush the Street Journal "

A disaffected staffer on Copley's newspaper told us that the same information was all the talk in his own editorial office.

Here is a partial list of harrassment we've undergone since the Smith article:

On at least four occasions the windows of the Street Journal and/or the adjoining GI Coffeehouse and People's Dry Goods store were smashed.

On at least three occasions our windows were riddled with bullets

There were at least four attempted break-ins, two of which were successful, resulting in the destruction of \$4000 worth of Justowriting equipment in one, and the theft of 25,000 copies of the paper in another

We have uncovered collusion between the police and other city officials to impede or stall required business and building permits

Our landlord was threatened by phone that "if you continue to rent to the Street Journal, your house will be burned down and your family killed." This resulted in our eviction

Another, potential landlord was contacted by a local police detective and told "not to rent to the Street Journal -- as a personal favor." The potential landlord then told us of the inci-

dent, which we published. Within a week, our landlord friend was arrested for "suspicion of murder." The description of the particular murderer was for a man 5' 10" and 168-178 pounds. Our friend is 5'3" and weighs 114 pounds.

On one occasion a Street Journal fund-raising cocktail party was infiltrated by four undercover police and two members of the vice-squad, resulting in the busts of six people for selling alcohol without a license -- the first such fund-raiser bust in the history of San Diego County.

Police protection is nil. The local District Attorney is one of Smith's favorite lap dogs, as are the chief of police, city manager and city council.

In fact, a slight spat over the affections of C. Arnholt Smith between the chief of police and city manager have created a little race to see if the cops or the building inspectors can squash the Street Journal first.

The Street Journal is part of a larger San Diego radical complex called People's Commune.

People's Commune projects include the newspaper, a consignment store for local craftsmen (People's Dry Goods), a GI coffeehouse (The Waiting Room) and a GI newspaper (Duck Power).

The Commune is also functional in helping a number of local high school newspapers.

The People's Commune is a non-authoritarian, anti-capitalist organization of San Diego radicals, dedicated to the eradication of capitalism at the same time it is building an internal socialism.

Among the projects underway at the People's Commune is a free bus service, a food cooperative along with a child care center and free school.

Among the 24 people living in two large houses, several are active duty members of the Navy or Marines involved in military organizing.

Their efforts along with those of others, were responsible for the successful Oceanside Moratorium on December 15.

The recent incidents of harrassment remind us of an earlier time, when Duck Power first started. We received word that Admiral Dornin, commandant of the 11th Naval District had given verbal orders that Duck Power was to be destroyed -- much the same way Smith and Copley ordered the destruction of the

Street Journal.

Within several weeks from the time of that order, nearly every sailor or marine working on Duck Power had been either jailed, transferred, discharged or committed to the psychiatric section of the Balboa naval hospital.

But the enemies of the Street Journal must learn the same lesson the enemies of Duck Power learned: you will not crush us -- you will only provide us with the impetus and evidence we need to destroy you and your goons!

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NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS FROM THE ZIMBABWE

AFRICAN NATIONAL UNION

Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) News / LNS

LUSAKA, Zambia (LNS) -- Our vote for the most significant event of the decade just ended goes not to Neil Armstrong and the machines that put him on the moon's surface. Our vote goes to brother guerrillas in South Viet Nam who, by administering a humiliating defeat on American militarism, have helped in demonstrating the invincibility of People's Wars. We expect, as a result of Viet Nam, that those who have been spending billions of dollars developing machines and chemical poisons for "limited wars" have learned enough to dare try again during the next decade. This humiliating lesson applies to both the imperialist powers and resident colonialists in Southern Africa, where the already intensifying armed struggle will most certainly graduate into more fully fledged revolutions within the first half of the 1970s. And if the last decade belonged to the Asian guerrillas, the next will as sure as hell belong to the armed blacks of Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Angola, Namibia, Guinea-Bissau and South Africa.

But here the tempo and scope of our struggle and the quality of its ultimate victory cannot and must not be abandoned to chance or the unknown whims of so-called Providence.

As we enter a most crucial decade in the history of our Southern African sub-continent it is necessary that our objectives be spelled out clearly. For this, after all, is a people's struggle, not a platform for ideological diplomats. As such the

people, the true heroes of this revolution, have a right to ask themselves the question: What after independence? And those who would seek refuge in militant racism ("we must have our country from the whitemen") must be exposed with courage for the opportunists they are, because of such stuff are born the wealthy black bwanas of the era of post independence. What after independence? is a question so crucial it can only be answered satisfactorily by policy: a policy capable of sustaining the confidence of the people in the worthiness of a protracted struggle; a policy that eliminates completely any possibility of fighting a bitter armed struggle only to lose the revolution to bureaucrats and other agents of capitalism (the so-called colonial elites).

Thus the problems of ideological orientation and disciplined organization will be confronting all of us in our respective countries. We must face them and deal with both boldly rather than waste most of our time fussing about bureaucratic titles ("which ministry shall be mine after independence") in the safety of foreign capitals.

Let us enter the new year and the new decade with an iron determination to do better and achieve lasting victories in our individual countries before the first half of the decade is out. A Happy and most Revolutionary New Year!

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OIL COMPANIES TRY TO SWEEP IT UNDER THE RUG

NEW YORK (LNS)-- There's something new in the food chain. Scientists announced recently that the chemicals used to diffuse oil spillage at sea are more dangerous than the oil itself. Out of sight, into the body.

It turns out that by trying to hide their mistakes, the oil companies ended up causing even worse damage. Dr. Ira Gabrielson, a biologist, let the oil companies have it "The usual approach is to try to remove the oil from the public eye by sweeping it under the ocean's surface by means of dispersants or detergents. More animal life was killed by chemicals in the Torrey Canyon accident than by the oil itself."

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NEW ORLEANS UNDERGROUND EDITORS INDICTED

LIBERATION News Service

NEW ORLEANS (LNS) -- Robert Head and Darlene Fife, staff members of the Nola Express, a New Orleans underground paper, have been indicted by a Federal Grand Jury on charges of mailing obscene matter.

The indictment cites a recent issue of the Nola Express, which re-printed a cartoon from the Pterodactyl, of Grinnell, Iowa, showing a naked man masturbating, with the caption, "What sort of man reads Playboy?"

The Pterodactyl had published the cartoon in connection with its report of a demonstration against Playboy's exploitative, salacious, and male chauvinist approach toward sex. The protest took place in 1968, when a speaker from the magazine came to Grinnell.

The Nola Express, in any case, is no porn sheet. The paper has been one of the most outstanding of the radical press in its exposure of local power structure and in its opposition to the Vietnam war and in its support for the struggles of Louisiana black students.

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DESERTERS GROUP IN CANADA GOES THROUGH HASSLES AND GETS A NEW HOME LIBERATION News Service

MONTREAL (LNS) -- The American Deserters Committee (ADC), hassled by a handful of individuals who have sought to break up the organization, has moved to a new office and is continuing its work to provide support and a political home for deserters.

The problems began last fall when three new deserters came to Montreal. Acting in concert, they attacked the ADC for being "too political," and took over the old Wolfe Street office to help deserters on purely "humanitarian" grounds.

The ADC people, closely linked to the ADC in Sweden and to GI organizing projects in the United States, charge that the newcomers are either crazy, "power-tripping individuals," or

cops. The newcomers have established themselves as the American Deserters Co-op and have sought to destroy the previous work done with deserters. Chuck Gurling, one of the newcomers, reportedly waved a .38 calibre pistol around one day, saying, "All niggers and commies should be shot."

Undaunted, the ADC regulars are continuing their activities, including a hostel, regular weekly meetings, legal advice, support for self-determination for Quebec, and participation in demonstrations against the U.S. aggression in Vietnam.

The new office of the American Deserters Committee of Montreal is located at 102 Villeneuve Est, Montreal 151, Quebec, phone 514-845-6542, the mailing address, unchanged, is P.O. Box 611, Station H, Montreal 25, Quebec, Canada.

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JOHN SINCLAIR DAY EVENTS SET LIBERATION News Service

DETROIT (LNS) -- People in the Detroit area, home of John Sinclair, the jailed cultural revolutionary, will come together Jan. 24-25 in a musical tribute to raise money and continue the fight against oppressive pot laws and all repression in Amerika.

Sinclair is serving a jail term of 9 1/2 to 10 years for allegedly giving two joints to an undercover narc. His friends and comrades from Trans-Love Energies / White Panthers / Youth International Party have planned a series of benefit concerts around John Sinclair Day, Jan. 24, the day he was busted two years ago.

There is some hope that a legal case can be built to get John out of jail soon and return him to the struggle, in a more active way.

There will be three major events in Detroit -- a dance/concert in the Grand Ballroom Jan. 24 and Jan. 25, from 2 p.m. to 1 a.m., and on Jan. 25 in the East Town Ballroom, from 2 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Bands include the MC-5, SRC, Shakey Jake, Bob Segar System, Stooges, Up, Mitch Ryder and the Detroit Wheels, Catfish, plus fourteen local groups. Also set to be on hand are Abbie Hoffman, Jerry Rubin, Tom Hayden, Ed Sanders and Ken Kelley.

Newsreel films will be shown.

People in the San Francisco Bay Area will mark John Sinclair Day with a poetry reading (Sinclair himself has written some widely-published verse). The reading will include Gary Snyder, Michael McClure, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Lew Welch and Drummond Hadley.

A multi-medley evening for New Yorkers will be held Jan. 24 in St. Mark's Church in the Bowery, with Ed Sanders, Allen Ginsberg, Andre Codresco, Kusama, a Warhol film, and "The Assassination of Nigger Nate," a play by Tony Barsha.

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SOUTHERN ORGANIZERS GO ON TRIAL
FOR THEIR CONTEMPT OF CONGRESS

By Southern Conference Educational Fund
LIBERATION News Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. (LNS) -- Two young poverty workers who defied the McClellan Committee will go on trial here Jan. 19 on charges of contempt of Congress.

Alan and Margaret MSurely refused to turn over to Sen. John McClellan of Arkansas their private papers and some records of the Southern Conference Educational Fund (SCEF).

SCEF is a Southwide interracial organization working to end racial injustice, poverty, war, and the draft. It has organizers in the field, publishes a monthly paper, The Southern Patriot, and issues pamphlets and brochures.

The MSurelys were organizing and distributing material in the mountains of Eastern Kentucky when they and three other persons were charged with sedition in 1967. The sedition charges were thrown out, but Senator McClellan subpoenaed documents seized from the MSurelys when they were arrested.

He ordered them to bring the material to a hearing in Washington last Mar. 4, saying he needed it for an investigation of uprisings in major cities. The MSurelys appeared at the hearing, but without the material.

Joseph Mulloy, another SCEF organizer, who was arrested with the MSurelys, has since been sentenced to five years for refusing to be draf-

ted. He refused induction after his draft board in Louisville, Ky., declined to consider his application for status as a conscientious objector. He has an appeal pending before the U.S. Supreme Court.

"There is no doubt that the coal operators are behind the prosecution of Mulloy and the MSurelys," said Carl and Anne Braden, executive directors of SCEF. "The coal operators have a long arm and their power reaches into many places. The SCEF organizers were challenging that power."

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LATE REPORT ON THE DRAFT ROULETTE:
NO SAFE BIRTHDAYS AT ALL

WASHINGTON (LNS) -- There are only 366 lottery numbers in the draft roulette and the first 30, according to a directive from the national headquarters of Selective Service, will be spent on January alone. The January call of 12,500 is only two-thirds of what is necessary each month if Melvin Laird's estimate of 225,000 draftees in 1970 is going to be achieved.

Rough calculation leads to the conclusion that not only are people in the "bottom third" of the call-up order very likely to get a notice from their draft board, but Selective Service will have to invent 180 new birthdays and also find vast numbers of previously undiscovered Americans to stock them. This solution would call for all the months of 1970 to be expanded to about 45 days each, with young men being assigned to the previously non-existent days by a random procedure.

It is unlikely that such an emergency plan will be adopted since, as one Washington observer pointed out, the Vietnamese forces resisting U.S. occupation will be fighting on the basis of a standard year-sized 1970 while the time-dilated U.S. Army plods to defeat.

Many hard-nosed Washington officials have privately given up hope that the press will be sufficiently censored by late 1970 to put across a big lie and they are already seeking ways to insure that they themselves will not be sacrificed to the wolves when the lottery hoax comes to light.

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CUBA- ISLE OF YOUTH

By Shel Stromanist

KALEIDOSCOPE/ LIBERATION News Service

The Isle of Youth is a six-hour ferry ride from the main Island. Though cradled in the arc of the mainland and connected by a shallow, umbilical shelf, the island has a unique role in Cuba. Neither a province nor a utopia (as some have portrayed it), once the famous Treasure Island and the site of Batista's most infamous political prisons, the Isle is where the youthful "guerrilleros" of today remake the revolution in their own lives.

In the early, pre-dawn, my eyes still blurry with sleep, I stumbled out of our tent and made my way in the general direction of the water spigot to wash the sleep from my eyes. I passed two young Cubans--they were perhaps fourteen or fifteen--dressed in their work clothes, sitting on a log bench. One was reading aloud to the other. And as I passed close, I heard what sounded like a passage of Che's Bolivian diary; he was arousing the guerrillas at 2 am to begin a march.

It seems clear that youth must make a revolution their own in order to continue a struggle begun by another generation. Camilo Cienfuegos and Che Guevara have meaning as figures to emulate only in so far as the values they represent can be acted on concretely long after they have passed. The struggle in the Sierra Maestra for Cuba's independence can never be again. But there are new struggles.

As one leaves the port city of Herona, the evidences of population become fewer and fewer. Occasional huts; once a small village, but otherwise only field after field of young orange and grapefruit trees planted in very straight rows. Some fields are freshly weeded, others are nearly overgrown. Before the revolution Americans and wealthy Cubans considered this island uncultivable; the sources of underground water were few and the soil was poor. As a result, the island remained largely undeveloped, except for a few very expensive resorts. The population, 8,000 at the time of the revolution, was clustered around these resorts and the port town of Herona.

Our bus turned abruptly from the main road at a small sign, "The Encampment of the Followers of Camilo and Che." As we stopped at the edge of a grove of trees amidst large tents and conical, thatched structures, our bus was engulfed by a crowd of several hundred young people. They were dressed in work clothes; many wore straw hats, some carried hoes while others seemed to have exchanged their work tools for spoons and cups. As each of us stepped from the bus we were gathered up in small, intense knots of young people, barraged with questions, curious stares and peals of laughter at our Spanish, stumbling or fluent, whichever it was.

The followers of Camilo and Che were young men and women, 15-25 years old. Their homes were in Oriente and Havana provinces, they would work on the Isle for six months. For most it was an honor. They had been selected by their communities, had walked the historical route of Maceo's trek in the 1890's from Oriente province to Las Villas (700 km), and participated in other revolutionary activities. A few, we were told, had been sent to the camps because of personal or family ^{problems}. Most of them came from peasant families; their fervent support of the revolution was based not on abstract reflection but in the concrete experience of their families and communities.

Without enthusiasm, survival of the camp's discipline would have been difficult. They worked in the fields from 7 am until 6:30 pm with breaks and lunch at the work site. Evenings were occupied with study--for those who had not attained sixth grade, basic education was conducted; for those already advanced, there was more intensive political education. Classes were often conducted by the students themselves.

All was not intensely serious. The work which we shared, was spirited and the breaks were taken up with teasing and joviality, until exhaustion set in. One morning the young people from the camp stopped work to tease a group of tractor drivers who had halted their long line of Russian built tractors to chat. They laughed about how tractor drivers didn't really have to work, they had grown soft from sitting on their tractors all day. If they had any stomach they'd get out in the fields with us. The tractor drivers retorted that their work required such skill and con-

centration that they would much prefer the easy work of the fields. Before long the conversation dissolved into uproarious laughter.

The Isle is being transformed by youth. It is their energy and their leadership that is at work. Dams are being built; the first was named Heroic Vietnam. And with that water, fields are irrigated. The tractor drivers were hauling peat from adjacent bogs to enrich the soil. Already groves of citrus fruit are nearing maturity. Canning and juice factories are being built, and the port facilities expanded to be able to accomodate ocean-going freighters which will carry the isle's fruits to export markets. Youth who worked on the isle in past years are returning with their new families as permanent residents and workers. University extension from Havana is being planned as an experiment in full integration of work and study.

Our last evening on the Isle we waited in the lobby of the El Colony hotel for a very important man and his wife. The El Colony, like so many playgrounds of the upper classes in pre-revolutionary Cuba, was 'inherited' by the revolution. Because its grand, marble lounges with very stuffy chairs are now inhabited by ordinary people on vacation from their jobs in factories and offices and farms, it doesn't strike the same awe in one's heart as it must once have. However, as we waited for Lazaro Mora and his wife, leaders in the Commission for Revolutionary Orientation of the Communist Party, we were a little nervous.

They seemed very young and shy as they entered the lobby of the El Colony. dressed in work clothes they had obviously worked in. They were both in their mid-twenties. Their informal dress and humble manner and the feeling that they would be that way whatever the circumstances were, reminded me of some of the early SNCC people, Bob Parris, Hesse Harris. We arranged ourselves around a long table in an adjacent room.

As Lazaro began to speak we had to strain to hear what he said. He spoke slowly and deliberately. He played down the uniqueness of the Isle, saying: "We are going forward a little faster because we started a little behind."

There was a quality of selflessness communicat-

ed through his words and manner--not a nebulous selflessness but a steeldetermination to sacrifice for PEOPLE, who are unquestionably the end of all action. He said production is important, but of greater importance is the formation of man in the process. When we discuss a task, we first discuss the social significance, he said. He spoke of the aspirations of youth to participate in the struggle, the necessity to face self destruction for the welfare of mankind and the need to avoid becoming preoccupied with material interests.

Lazaro and the Followers of Camilo and Che are two sides of the youthful revolution in Cuba. They provide much of the leadership in important positions in the economy and party structure (a surgeon and administrator of a provincial hospital was 24; principals in schools are often in their early 20's).

And, it is their energy that is firing the engines of development. The revolution is being re-kindled in the lives of a new generation, as it was for others in the attack on Moncada; in the guerrilla struggle in the Sierra Maestra; during the literacy campaign of 1961; in the pioneering youth brigades on the Isle of Youth; and continuing today as youth mobilize throughout the country for the 10 Million Ton Sugar harvest of 1970.

In many ways Cuban culture itself has become the revolutionary culture of youth. The chains of past exploitation are being dismantled from the Cuban economy and society, revealing more intimately the depths of inequity and stunted growth they have caused. Cuban youth, who in 1961, left Havana for the mountainous areas of Oriente to teach literacy, discovered a degree of poverty, the result of decades of deprivation, that they had never imagined existed in their own country. As the layers of capitalist rationalization have been stripped from Cuban society, and youth have seen its effects, they have been energized by the new tasks revealed. It was only when Cuba tried to diversify her economy after the revolution, that she realized the full weight of the one-crop millstone around her neck. That is the lesson and irony of the ten-million ton harvest. Only by producing and unheard of quantity of sugar for export can the country begin the process of freeing itself from sugar.

The question of a "generation gap" within the

VIETNAM: 'THE WHOLE PEOPLE WERE AGAINST US'

LIBERATION News Service

PARIS (LNS) -- "We moved into what was known as a 'free fire zone.' It was explained that in this area anything alive was supposed to be dead.

"We were told that if we saw a 'gook' or thought we saw one, no matter how big or small, male or female, shoot first. No need for permission to fire. It was just an open curtain shoot. Men, women or children -- they were all part of the body count.

"Then I started to realize that there were no friendly Vietnamese for us. The whole people were against us. They were all 'gooks,' even the girls in the PX. It makes them a lot easier to kill. You can kill a water buffalo, a monkey or a 'gook.' It's all the same."

Sgt. James Weeks, a former member of "B" company, 4th Cavalry, 1st U.S. Infantry Division, served a year in Vietnam beginning March 1967. He was telling of his first exposures to warfare in Vietnam. "I arrived with the impression that I was liberating South Vietnam from communism," he added, "but I started to have second thoughts soon after landing when I saw the looks of hate and fear on every side."

Sgt. Weeks was one of the first to testify at an international Vietnam conference, chaired by philosopher Jean Paul Sartre, in Paris, Dec. 19. His testimony was followed by a number of reports from GIs, scientists and doctors who have served in Vietnam, and by Vietnamese who have personally suffered from the U.S. war policy. Wilfred Burckett, of The Guardian, Dec. 27, reported on their testimony.

Extracts were read from a signed statement from Sp/4 Curtis Kerker, 3rd Brigade of the 4th Infantry Division: "Shortly after I arrived in Vietnam, a sergeant offered to show me his collection of human ears. He even offered me a set. Shortly before I left, one of the machine gunners in number 1 platoon Alpha Company removed the finger of an unarmed Vietnamese -- who was alive at the time -- in order to get the ring. Such incidents went on all the time I was there."

Kerker went on to explain that in ambushes

they invariably mowed down anyone who came their way -- old people, children, mothers with babies in their arms or on their backs.

Dr. Egbert W. Pfeiffer, zoologist from Montana University who visited South Vietnam last March, said that so far 29% of the total forest area had been defoliated and 6% of the rice crop area attacked. After talks he had with experts it was clear that 60% of the lumber-getting area had already been seriously affected. But the most serious aspects were the increasing reports of gross birth defects in defoliated areas. Laboratory tests in the United States had shown that the most commonly used 2,4,5-T defoliant, in the doses now used in South Vietnam, produced similar gross birth defects in a very high percentage of test animals.

Dr. Arthur H. Westing, botanist from Windham College in Putney, Vt., said government statements that the defoliants were "harmless chemicals in commercial use in the U.S. for a long time" were false. Only two of the four chemicals used in Vietnam are used in the U.S., the other two are banned for health reasons. Also, those used in the U.S. are used in higher concentrations and at a far higher rate in Vietnam.

"The food denial campaign is said to be against enemy troops," he said. "In fact, it is used against civilians with especially bad effects on the aged, the sick and children. These are war crimes against civilians."

Dr. Alje Zennema, who headed all Canadian medical services in South Vietnam until August 1968, said he had personally documented 20 cases of death from poison gas, the biochemical and pathological action of which resembled the deadly "nerve gas." He said there were many more cases. In shelters, this gas killed within 30 seconds to one minute.

Clare Culhane, who was administrator for a year beginning in October 1967 of the Canadian hospital at Quang Nhay, read passages from her diary. "Endless cases of women and children being run down by tanks, of GIs picking off children as they swam out to pick up food cartons from an overturned supply truck, of pilots in-

viting passengers for human 'turkey shoots.' A current wisecrack among the pilots: 'Ten points for a pregnant woman -- the babies will only grow up to be Vietcongs anyway.'"

Pham Thi Liem, a 21-year-old round-faced girl from Bimh Chau village in Quang Nam province, told how her father and brother had been killed by US-financed Korean troops in February 1966. Three years later, the rest of her family was killed.

"I was living with my mother, little brother and two younger sisters," she said. "On Jan. 13, 1969 in the early hours of the morning, shells started exploding in our hamlet. We went into our shelters. We came out again. Helicopters came and started shooting. I went back into the shelter with seven other children. My mother and brother remained in the house, my aunts, cousins and other relatives went into a big communal shelter with my two sisters.

"There was lots of firing. I poked my head out to see what was happening. American soldiers were rounding up people to try to get them to move into tanks.

"The people didn't understand or didn't want to go. The Americans opened up with machine guns. People fell on top of each other everywhere. People were collapsing everywhere. Those who were still alive were roped together and pushed into the tanks.

"On the other side of the village a bulldozer was knocking down what had been left by the shells of houses and shelters. Everything was razed to the ground. Then there was a tremendous explosion and I wondered if the big communal shelter had not been blown up.

"About sunset the firing stopped and the tanks went away. I came out of the shelter and tried to find my relatives.

"I went to the big shelter. It had been blown to bits. My two aunts were dead. I found the arm of my younger sister. I recognized it because of a piece of pullover which was still on the wrist and the gold bangles. I knew the pullover well because I used to put it on her every day. It was I who looked after her.

"In the big shelter were the two families of

my aunts and that of my uncle. All 30 people in the shelter were killed.

"We went to the next hamlet to find my mother and little brother, but it was the same thing. Everything was destroyed, the same spectacle of devastation. I met children who told there'd been the same massacre. We helped out friends there to bury the dead.

"There was no trace of my mother. I went back to the hamlet, into the shelter, and we stayed there and divided up whatever food was left.

"A week later some people came back from the concentration center where the villages had been taken. They told me my mother and little brother had been concentrated there, that all together there were 11,000 people, packed together in such terrible heat with little food on a sandy stretch of the riverbank. My mother was among 35 who had died in the first week.

"By March the 13th when I left, 18 members of my family had been killed and I was alone in the world. I have some tiny hope that perhaps my little brother is still alive somewhere."

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NOBODY NEEDS THAT MUCH BREAD

NEW YORK (LNS) -- "It's bread," one girl said, commenting disparagingly on the dull life led by her parents. "Nobody needs that much bread. You have to think of the total life."

More and more young people are reaching the conclusion that their parents lead dull, directionless lives. And they are concluding that the cause is capitalism -- a system which breeds purposeless lives, which alienates people from their work.

A recent survey by Youth Report, for example, shows that the prevailing mood among many students is that they feel "sorry" for their parents. The survey, which concentrated on 18-year-old women freshmen, pointed out that young people believe their parents have wasted their lives. The root of this evaluation, the survey concluded, is the young people's conclusion that they can have more fulfilling lives if they are motivated by concerns other than money

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LETTER FROM A BLACK POLITICAL PRISONER:

DELAWARE BLACK BROTHERS SEEK JUSTICE

by Balagun Olatungi

LIBERATION News Service

(Editor's note: Eight young black men from Wilmington, Delaware, recently won an important victory when a court granted an extension, through March 27, for the filing of appeal briefs. The eight men, seven of whom are in five different jails, were convicted in the spring of 1969. The charges stemmed from an incident in October, 1968 in which several black men freed a black brother (allegedly an Army deserter) from the clutches of two Federal agents. The arrested men, who had been marked by Wilmington's cops for their role in bringing the black community together over a period of months, maintained their innocence throughout the trial. They continue to do so.

Their conviction is seen by the black people of Wilmington as part of a clear pattern of repression against black people, a pattern which has included daily incidents of police brutality, kangaroo courts, and the occupation of the black community by the National Guard.

The men have all been separated now, sent to different parts of the country to serve time. Their brothers and sisters in Wilmington have formed the Defense Committee for the Wilmington Eight, and the committee has gone on the offense to fight for justice. "By separating the brothers," the committee told Liberation News Service, "the governor thought he could keep them from telling our people the truth about what is going on with the racist government of Wilmington. But what he failed to realize is that they were only separated physically, not mentally, because true blackness can never be separated."

The following letter was written by Brother Balagun Olatungi (William Robinson), age 25, who is serving 15 years in Lewisburg Federal Prison.

LEWISBURG, Pa. (LNS) -- We need nation-wide publicity so as it won't be as easy for the government to railroad us as they did at our first kangaroo trial. We need funds for possible bail and to get some good lawyers for our appeal. I

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hate to think of going back to court with another court-appointed lawyer.

We are not as well known as the Conspiracy 8 of brother Huey Newton, but I know we were "railroaded" because of our same beliefs. If brother Huey didn't have the people behind him, he would have no doubt got life or even death. This shows me the importance of unity and having the people behind you.

All of us young men (average age is 21 3/4 years) are from the little city of Wilmington, Delaware (Pop. 90,000). We are in jail for an alleged assault on two FBI agents (both white), and supposedly aiding the escape of brother Robert (Kwame Wa Hakim) Barber, 22 years old, who was supposedly a deserter from the United States Army. He is the blood brother of Onyango (one of the 8) and he is serving the Youth Act, also at Petersburg, Va. for escape.

I believe it would be best to start from where most of us started to become aware of ourselves. In 1966 or 1967 a black youth, whose name was B.J. Keller and was from the Northeast section of the city, was shot and killed by a rival black gang. After his death the brothers began to dig themselves and formed a coalition and named themselves WYEAC (Wilmington Youth Emergency Action Council).

This group of young blacks were funded by the state government and private groups of whites. They had offices in the different sections of the city, one for each alleged gang. The then Governor, Charles Terry, was against the coalition from its beginning, claiming they were all juvenile delinquents and drop-outs getting paid for doing nothing. (Some of the members had paying positions, many more were volunteers.) WYEAC was from the beginning a black awareness group that was out to stop gang fights and to better all of the black communities...

After the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in April of '68 there were a few minor outbreaks in the city. I emphasize minor. Racist Governor Terry called in the "storm troopers" to patrol the city, specifically the Northeast area and the Westside area. The troopers remained in the city for 9 months, even though there were never any real outbreaks. They were only removed because Terry

lost the upcoming election, and they stayed until his last official day as governor.

In August of 1968, six black men were arrested for discharging firearms in the city limits in a dump area called Cherry Island. Cherry Island is an unoccupied dump area, near the pig pistol range, that was frequently used by whites for target practice and shooting rats.

Five of the brothers arrested were or had been employed by WYEAC and lived in the Northeast area. Five of us had black berets on, four of us had weapons, and one or two had a button on their berets that read, "I Am Already Drafted In The Liberation Army."

Governor Terry leaped at this and with the help of the local news media blew it out of proportion for about two months. He was using us as a campaign scapegoat. Terry made a statement something like, we six black men were the only Delaware members of the nationwide Black Liberation Army.

We were held in jail for some time with bails ranging from \$6,000 to \$16,000. We were charged with various charges, discharging firearms in the city limits (maximum fine \$100), possession of a weapon by a felon, and possession of a reefer...

On October 29, 1968, two white men were walking to their car on 22nd and Pine streets (Northeast area) with a brother between them. They testified in court that five or six young men approached them. In about five minutes they had been beaten and their alleged prisoner had escaped.

That night and the next morning, with the aid of the local pig force and a list of names, they raided several houses in the Northeast area and arrested 13 or more brothers and set bails ranging from \$5,000 to \$20,000. I was arrested in one of the houses, but my name was not on that list so after two hours they let me go. Of all the men arrested, all had or still worked for WYEAC's Northeast area office.

Thirteen men were listed in the indictment, eight of us were found guilty of four charges or less and one is being sought by the FBI. The others were acquitted.

Our indictment read:

- Counts. 1) Assault on agent (A) with a dangerous weapon, that is a shoe on the foot.
2) Assault on agent (B).
3) Conspiracy to help a prisoner escape.
4) Aiding a prisoner's escape.

We went to trial in April of 1969 - seven of the brothers never made bail - the trial lasted 20 days and 8 of us were made guilty. The trial was a complete railroading and the few people who attended, including the White Coalition who had met two of our brothers bail, were convinced that we were all innocent.

We are now awaiting our appeal, if we don't get needed funds and the national public behind us, we will be railroaded again and no doubt forgotten, except by our specific Queens and our families. Most of us have one to three children. I hope that you will give your readers a chance to help us in any way they can...

A black thinking man forever,
Balagun Olatungi

(Editor's footnote: The Defense Committee for the Wilmington Eight would like your messages of support and your financial help. Write to: Defense Committee, 1321 E. 29th St., Wilmington, Del. 19802, phone 302-762-2052.)

The Wilmington Eight are:

Name	Age	Sentence	Prison
Nyeusi Wa Manyatta	27	15 yrs.	Leavenworth, Kansas
Calvin Loper			
Balgun Olatungi	25	15 yrs.	Lewisburg, Pa.
William Robinson			
Hakim Farouk Bey	21	15 yrs.	Milan, Mich.
Warren Mowbray			
El Hajj Malick El Shabazz	18	12 yrs.	New Castle, Del.
Allen Steed			
Onyango Wa Hakim	20	9 yrs.	Petersburg, Virginia
James Barber			
Weysi Wa Pendeza	22	8 yrs.	Milan, Mich.
Robert Tate			
Jomo Wa Kenyatta	19	Youth Act	Petersburg, Virginia
Steven White			
Kaaba	22	5 yrs.	
Manuel Brunswick		probation	

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FREE JOHN SINCLAIR FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS
JANUARY 24, 1970.

MAYOR DALEY COMES TO COURT

By Abe Peck

LIBERATION News Service

CHICAGO (LNS) -- "My name is Richard J. Daley I am the Mayor of Chicago." So began the testimony of the 42nd defense witness in the trial of the Chicago Conspiracy.

When Richard J. Daley was at the age of most of the people reading this, he ran with a "neighborhood club" (gang) called the Hamburg, a group with more than enough energy to have enjoyed the street-fighting that went on in August, 1968, after the city refused to grant permits to the Yippies and the Mobilization.

Daley has aged a bit since those foot-loose days, but his ego is still big enough to be gratified by the prospect that the people who caused him grief stand to spend 10 years each in the penitentiary.

It was no accident that Daley's boyhood pal and former law partner, Judge Lynch, was the man who frowned upon the Yippies' and Mobe's last-ditch permit suits 10 days before the convention. It was not a careless error that a letter sent to Daley the day after the Grand Jury returned its indictments in this case was signed "Abe" by Federal Judge Abraham Marovitch. It was not karma that led the Mayor to spend the previous day's lunch hour cutting a ribbon at the new law office of his son Richard and retiring Corporation Counsel Richard Simon, who, lo and behold, was the first prosecution witness, and who, miracle of miracles, was being replaced by one of the mayor's nephews.

Chicago, like scout camp, runs on the buddy system.

Daley has been mayor since 1955. In this 14-year tenure, the longest in Chicago history, some old friends from the stockyards and council chambers have passed on to that great smoke-filled room in the sky.

No longer does Alderman Krsia interrupt liberal speeches in the capital city council with the cry, "God bless you Mayor Daley from the 15th ward." Some of the hundreds of off-duty sanitation workers who screamed, "We love Mayor Daley," when the delegates from Wisconsin

moved to stop the convention have themselves stopped coming around for favors.

Michigan Street seems vacant without all those "Welcome to Chicago/Richard J. Daley" placards.

The Woodstock Nation generation defense, which called Daley to the stand, was interested in some other quotes.

Young punks who are busy organizing demonstrations in an age when the mayor has been hard at work in the precinct house wanted to know whether or not he called Senator Ribicoff a "Jew motherfucker" at the convention.

There were queries about the "Shoot to kill arsonists and shoot to maim looters," words which have brought cheers to the throats of the city's honkies after the assassination of Martin Luther King.

They wondered if the Mayor had been thinking of a career as a sick humorist back in 1963 when he told the NAACP that "There are no ghettos in Chicago." If they neglected to ask about "The police are not here to create disorders, they are here to preserve disorders," it was only because they feared a 10-minute diatribe on how trained agitators threatened to kidnap the children of the delegates, put drugs in the reservoirs and walk naked on the waters of Lake Michigan.

With two sons, several aldermen and a cortege of cadre in attendance, Daley took the stand to scattered hissing at 11 a.m. on Jan. 6, twelve days after his subpoena date.

The delay was due to Abbie Hoffman's Yippie-pneumonia and the defense's desire to focus attention on the appearance of the mayor, widely regarded as the real conspirator behind the disorders of the convention week.

He sat in the front of the room, red-faced if not red-necked, his \$300 tailored suit and working-class accent in sharp contrast to the motley garb and hip slang of the defendants. (One defendant, Lee Wiener, who used to work for the Mayor's Commission on Youth Welfare, swears that Daley practices with a tape recorder to make sure that he sounds sufficiently proletarian.)

The defense had wanted a five-minute recess to serve a People's Indictment on him, but Judge Hoffman, worried about yet another incident in his

... more...

sensationalized courtroom, denied the motion.

The first explosion was not long in coming. Attempting to show a network of connections that determined permit policy last year, Defense Attorney William Kunstler asked the mayor if he knew chief prosecutor and former corporation counsel Thomas Foran.

"I think he's one of the greatest attorneys in the country and the finest man I know in and out of public life," Daley replied.

Hissing became epidemic in the left rear row, populated by staff members of the defense committee. It was impossible to listen to praise for Foran, after more than three months of watching him try to put away "David P. Dellinger et al," without expressing some meaningful dissent.

Screams and fists suddenly broke out in the back of the room as 15 marshalls and four of the mayor's corps of Praetorian bodyguards followed Judge Hoffman's instructions to "take care of the rear row."

Within 15 minutes, four people had been ousted and two arrested. Frank Joyce, a member of People Against Racism from Detroit, and Susan Roberts, an anti-draft worker from the West Coast, were taken to the lock-up on the floor above Hoffman's arena; Judy Gumbo, Conspiracy office manager, and her sister Miriam, were ushered out of the building. Shortly afterwards, Sandy Levinson, 33-year old sociology teacher at the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute and contributing writer to Ramparts, who had been barred from the area, was arrested when she came back to protest her exile. Those arrested were released on \$200 bond at 3 p.m. . Booked for assaulting a Federal marshal, they were set to go on trial Jan. 12.

Throughout the melee, Judy's voice could be heard over the din, repeating the words, "It's just like the Democratic Convention all over again."

Daley had been called to answer the following charges:

***"That in the words of subsequently submitted Offer of Proof, there was a conspiracy, overt or tacit, between Mayor Daley and the Democratic administration of Lyndon Johnson to prevent any significant demonstrations against war, poverty,

imperialism and in support of alternate culture at the Democratic National Convention.

** "That the members of this conspiracy planned and executed the use of every means at their disposal -- including calculated official inertia in the processing of necessary permit applications, the deliberate intimidation of potential demonstrators, in order to deter their participation in the Democratic National Convention, and psychological indoctrination of the public and the police with attitudes of hatred, fear, and distrust of the anticipated demonstrations and their participants and supporters, the open and blatant encouragement of violence toward demonstrators by police and other military forces, and the employment of savage, brutal and inhuman tactics to intimidate, deter, or prevent the exercise by the people of their most fundamental Constitutional rights, all in order to prevent or crush such public exhibition of dissatisfaction with American domestic and foreign policies."

Unfortunately, this mouthful is easier to write than to establish in court. Kunstler asked Daley a long series of questions designed to show that he runs the city, either every key official or the members of their committees, and that he gave the orders responsible for the police smashing of the peace rally April 27, 1968, and the confrontations during the convention week.

Nearly every question was ruled out of order after Foran repeatedly objected on the grounds that Kunstler was "leading" the witness.

Kunstler had a problem. It was important to get remarks about the Mayor's role in permit discussions into the record but it seemed impossible to do this without defying the area of testimony by asking leading questions. Kunstler moved several times for Judge Hoffman to certify Daley as a hostile witness, which would have allowed the asking of such questions; the Judge denied the motion. This ruling reflected Hoffman's previous positions, which had limited testimony to the particulars of the charges and the dozen overt acts alleged in the indictment. At no time has the defense been able to sustain or counterattack and show its own good intentions in contrast to

the real behavior of the administrations involved with the convention -- not even when the "chief architect" himself was on the stand.

Without the ability to ask "probing questions," direct examination was crippled. Kunstler pressed hard. Over 90 objections to his questions were sustained and the judge severely scolded him no less than three different times -- but it was almost impossible to get at what might have been brought out under freer circumstances.

If what Daley said on the stand was true, then Jerry Rubin's claim that the Mayor is an underdog Yippie must be believed. According to Daley, he would "talk occasionally with now-deceased Commissioner McSetridge about the problems of the Parks District (the agency responsible for rally and sleeping permits) and periodically instruct all the fine young men connected with city government...to cooperate with anyone and everyone who wanted permits," and to insure that demonstrators "would be given every courtesy while in Chicago."

No wonder Kunstler asked the Mayor if his definition of hospitality included nightsticks, and whether or not he agreed with the "Violence Commission's report that what happened at the Democratic National Convention amounted to a police riot."

Kunstler closed his direct examination after presenting the 14-part Offer of Proof "for the appellate record."

After a two-question examination (about whether the Mayor ever suggested that permit marches be denied -- "No."), and the one question of re-direct ("Did you ever tell anyone when the Yippies and the Mobilization filed their suits, 'Now they'll never get permits!'" -- "No."), Daley was dismissed.

He ducked out the side door to a chorus of catcalls; no less than nine alleged press people revealed themselves to be cops of one sort or another (fully accredited newsmen had been barred for the first hour of Daley's testimony by marshalls who had said, "There's no room.").

The effect of Daley's testimony is unclear. He didn't say very much. He didn't do a right-wing

act and red-bait the defendants -- but the defendants were unable to prove their charges against him. He played humble and dignified in the courtroom, while the defendants rushed into the hallway when the marshalls began dragging people out of the room.

The net impact was probably bad for the Conspiracy. The sequestered jurors are horny and homesick. They are not allowed to have uncensored newspapers, radio, TV, alcohol, grass, or any but the lamest books and magazines. They live in a hotel, cut off from their families. Under such circumstances, it is doubtful that they have any patience for the frenetic lights and sounds of long-haired people fighting the Mayor's Men.

The scene wasn't much different from that of Convention Week -- when long-hairs spoke and policemen hit -- and nobody is sure that the jury's consciousness has been raised to a level where they understand war, institutional racism, capitalism and the other bummers that brought people here in 1968 much better than most Chicagoans did that August.

Greek mythology has it that the god Kronos ate his children until a bunch of them hacked their way out of his stomach and killed him. The eight men indicted by the Federal Government are the new Titans, fighting on behalf of a struggling culture and the politics that it needs to survive.

The courtroom is only a theater for this larger struggle; a dying society can only pretend to be judge, jury and executioner for one that is a-borning.

At the same time that Daley was testifying on the 23rd floor of the Federal Building, a Grand Jury empaneled to levy charges against the seven Black Panthers who survived the State's Attorney's raid in which Fred Hampton and Mark Clark were murdered, was convening behind locked doors on the 21st floor.

A few floors further down, lawyers for the Chicago Fifteen, who liberated the draft board and its records last year, were defending their clients from representatives of the Selective Slavery System. Over in the Criminal Courts Building, young people -- students, blacks, freaks, greasers,

Puerto Ricans -- were being ejected from the inquest of the Hampton-Clark killings.

Just before the afternoon session convened Abbie Hoffman turned to Daley and said, "Why don't we settle it right here?" Even Daley joined the press and the gallery in laughing. But what is happening in the Federal Building and in the Criminal Court Building and in court houses all over Amerika is not a laughing matter.

Don't take my word for it; check it out yourself. Pick any court; it doesn't have to be a landmark Federal case. Dig the color, clothing and accents of the people being put on trial. You don't see many custom-crafted suits standing before the bench, except as corporate representatives. You don't hear the words, "The People vs. Richard J. Daley."

Ten minutes of any courthouse will convince you that Lenny Bruce was right when he said that "at the halls of justice, the only justice is in the halls."

-30-

BISHOP PARILLA-BONILLA: A CHRISTMAS SURPRISE

SAN FRANCISCO(LNS) -- A delegation of five Roman Catholic priests made a surprise Christmas Eve visit to Bobby Seale, the chairman of the Black Panther Party, in his cell in San Francisco County Jail.

The priests included Bishop Antulio Parilla-Bonilla, a Puerto Rican Jesuit. Bishop Parilla-Bonilla, stressed that his pilgrimage was in intentional conflict with the war-mongering visit to Vietnam made by New York's Cardinal Terence Cooke and other Catholic clergy.

The Puerto Rican Jesuit has frequently spoken out for Puerto Rican independence and against U.S. exploitation of his country.

-30-

SOUTH VIETNAMESE IN JAPAN PROTEST

AGAINST U.S

TOKYO (LNS) -- About a hundred South Vietnamese students -- in Japan under the auspices of the Saigon regime -- held a protest march Dec 5 in

front of the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo. Carrying signs saying "Don't Kill Children," the South Vietnamese students expressed their anger at the Song My massacre, Prensa Latina reported.

-30-

PANTHER "THREAT" EXEMPTS OVERSEAS

G-MEN FROM CUTBACK

WASHINGTON (LNS) -- FBI agents and narcs currently enjoying undercover duty abroad can rest assured that their vacations are not over. Nixon's recent 10% reduction of government employees abroad will not affect the Justice Department's men. The Peace Corps will also be allowed to continue with its pacification programs without reduction in the dwindling number of countries that will accept them.

The U.S. maintains 550,000 people overseas in 18 departments and agencies, most of which took the 10% cut. 20,000 of these people will be home by June, the White House announced.

In their appeal to be exempted from the decimation, the Justice Department offered two air-tight arguments: "adequate coverage of major cases such as the identification, apprehension and extradition of the assassin of Martin Luther King would have been jeopardized" by reductions in the FBI staff abroad. And the clincher, the contention that foreign contacts by representatives of the Black Panther Party "pose a serious threat to our Government and demand immediate attention."

-30-

NINETEEN BUFFALO ACTIVISTS INDICTED

BUFFALO, N.Y. (LNS) -- Nineteen activists representing a full cross-section of the Buffalo area movement, have been indicted for their alleged part in the Oct. 15 ransacking of the ROTC offices (reported damage - \$10,000) in Clark Gym in the Norton Union on the Buffalo campus of the State University of New York.

The indictment, including charges of burglary, criminal mischief, riot, inciting to riot and conspiracy, was handed down after an intensive media campaign against the "mad vandals." The only defendant not released on his own recognizance, and who faces a high bail when arraigned, is a black man, Leon Phipps.

No trial date has been set yet.

***** 30 *****

From: Karen Wald, LNS correspondent in the San Francisco Bay Area--

On New Year's Eve, Ronnie Reagan signed the extradition order sending Bobby Seale to Connecticut, where he will attempt to avoid murder by the state's legal machinery.

On Jan. 2, 1970, Bobby did a two-hour tape interview for Tricontinental Magazine, in which he renewed his faith in the work of the Black Panther Party and the struggles of oppressed people here and throughout the Third World. In long, rambling recollections he recalled the early days of the Party, its growth to national and then international stature, and the accompanying repression. He spoke warmly of the response in the black community, the increased awareness on the part of all segments of the black community that the recent attacks against the Black Panther Party are part of an attack against ALL black people, that none of them are immune. He also commended the strong support received from whites in the areas of the Black Panther Party headquarters.

Bobby stressed the need not only for international solidarity among all revolutionary movements, but the need, often ignored, for oppressed peoples within the U.S. to work together to abolish the system of capitalism, which exploits everyone. "We're going to push for a program of a 30-hour work-week for all workers," he declared, "at the SAME PAY. Because this is something all workers, and all unemployed, can relate to. With a 30-hour week, we can cut down on unemployment, give everybody more work, and not take anything away from those already working since they'd still be getting the same income."

In a New Year's message to Third World peoples, Bobby expressed confidence in the success of the on-going struggles to overthrow imperialism and to construct socialist systems which will serve the needs of the people. In a special message to the Cuban people on the 11th anniversary of their revolution, he reiterated Eldridge Cleaver's recent statement of confidence that the Cuban people will achieve their 10 million ton harvest in a heavy blow -- both symbolic and material -- against the would-be wreckers of the Cuban economy in the U.S. State Department.

Tricontinental, for which Bobby was giving the interview, is the official theoretical journal of the Organization of Solidarity of the Peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America. Based in Havana, the organization is headed by a 12-member Executive Secretariat, with four members each coming from liberation struggles and revolutionary governments in each of the three continents of the Third World. Thus the Executive Secretariat includes representatives from the Angolan Liberation Movement and the independence movement of the Portuguese colony of Guinea and the Cape Verde Islands, as well as from Vietnam, the People's Democratic Republic of Korea (North Korea) and Cuba.

Tricontinental, printed in four languages (Spanish, French, English, Italian) and reproduced in many other languages and dialects, is available in many parts of the world -- wherever there is struggle. Recently it was banned in France. The French Minister of the Interior told the Na-

tional Assembly.

"Do these revolutionary movements that exist today in France receive international support, and from whom? The answer to this question...is that there is an incontestable solidarity among the revolutionary movements that have developed during the past years in all the countries of the world.

"...It's not a matter of accusing this or that government, this or that international organization, of fomenting riots in this or that country of Europe. It's a matter of establishing solidarity, a mutual support among the revolutionary movements which adhere to the same ideology, the same cult for the same heroes. Che Guevara, Mao Tse-tung, Fidel Castro, Ho Chi Minh, etc."

Based on this report, the French National Assembly banned the sale, distribution and circulation of Tricontinental in "the whole territory." Its French publisher, Francois Maspero, went to jail rather than cease publishing.

Tricontinental is available in this country, in English, for \$3.60 a year. This includes all issues of the magazine, bulletin and books of the Organization as well as all the posters issued by OSPAAAL during that year. Movement people can get information on subscribing to Tricontinental by writing to Bruce Jacobs, c/o Leviathan, 2700 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025.

From: Chuck Pasternack, of San Francisco Newsreel, Paris, Christmas Night:

Brothers and Sisters--

A brief note from Paris -- more to tell when we get back from further travels.

Tonight all over the walls of Paris, John & Yoko's bullshit ad in French: "La guerre est finie si vous le voulez." [War is over if you want it.]

Added by the people: "Pour abolir le fusil, il faut prendre le fusil." -- Mao [To abolish the gun, it is necessary to take up the gun.]

I wanted to photograph the above but a whole busload of plainclothes pigs said no -- later when we came back, white paper covered the people's slogan. I guess this shows what side John & Yoko ultimately come down on! ...

From: Ken Kelley, editor of the Ann Arbor Argus, by phone, joyful, from Ann Arbor [thanks to Ken also for calling in to us with Abe Peck's Conspiracy story in this packet] --

Judge Samuel J. Elden, in Ann Arbor District Court ruled that the Argus was "unquestionably obscene" and in violation of the Supreme Court decision on obscenity (total bullshit!) -- but there was not enough evidence to prove that I distributed the issue, which is what I was charged with. Therefore, that obscenity charge was thrown out of court. They can still press other charges -- that seems to be the meaning of the judge's comments. I called them up but they won't say anything.... We had a killer lawyer, Marc Stickgold, president of the mid-West Lawyers Guild.

END OF RADICAL MEDIA BULLETIN BOARD FOR TODAY

REBELLION UNDERGROUND: NEW YORK SUBWAY RIDERS
BOLT 30-CENT TURNSTILES IN SPORADIC FESTIVITIES
LIBERATION News Service

NEW YORK (LNS) -- Early Sunday, Jan. 4, the transit fare of the City of New York shot up from 20 cents to 30 cents. In the days that followed the shot was more than once returned: passengers bolted turnstiles, young people waved cards that vaguely resembled the special school passes which students who must travel by subways to get to school are issued and walked through exit gates without flinching, and for several days Youth Against War and Fascism (YAWF) led selected multitudes in mass charges to bypass the toll.

Late in the afternoon of Jan. 5, the first workday of the new fare, about 50 YAWF people descended on the BMT station at Union Square after holding a street meeting with large signs proclaiming "Subways Should be Free" and "Subways Belong to the People."

After exhorting the enthusiastic passers-by -- just an ordinary crowd of working people -- not to pay their fares, the demonstrators and their new friends descended into the subway mezzanine, vaulted the turnstiles and flew through the pass gates. They chained open the gates and coaxed newcomers to follow them through. The rush hour crowd pondered a second, then smiled and took exuberant strides past the gates.

Old ladies crawled under the turnstiles and came up beaming to meet the kisses of people on the other side. Another man waiting to sneak his free ride shouted, "Why didn't you do this the last time the fare went up?"

For many who just happened to arrive at the station at the time of the commotion, it was the most exuberant party they had ever stumbled upon in their lives. People became organizers on the spot, turning around to shout encouragement to subway riders who, like themselves a few minutes before, were debating whether to scoot through or not.

Then came the police. Throughout the city, extra-heavy details of police were assigned to rush to underground disorders, and groups of patrolmen at many stations stood by at the turn-

stiles to smash spontaneous evasion of the 30-cent fare. The solitary transit patrolman who failed to stop the Union Square festival of the oppressed soon had 10 or 15 pals to help. They came wielding clubs the length of baseball bats and approached the crowd (which was chanting "Don't Pay the Fare") with their usual sensitivity and grace.

The hands of one cop grabbed the hair of a Puerto Rican woman and yanked her out from under a turnstile, while others tapped heads with their baseball bats. The demonstration dispersed.

But that wasn't quite all. In the next few days, roving bands of YAWFers and anarchists from the Anarchos commune repeated the Union Square scenario at station after station all over Manhattan, so that altogether hundreds of average working-class New Yorkers took part.

Scores of people were taken into police custody and police issued summonses to many angry people who tried turnstile-hopping on their own. At the Rockaway and Far Rockaway subway stations, more than 150 passengers clashed with the police Tuesday night as they tried to avoid paying the double fare required on the Rockaway spur of the IND line. Earlier Tuesday, about 20 people who identified themselves as members of the W.E.B. Dubois Club at City College of New York jumped over the turnstiles at the 125th Street station of the Eighth Avenue IND. Shouting "Stop the Fare!" they boarded a train before the police could catch them.

No one can be certain that the 30-cent fare is here to stay until the courts decide on legal challenges by several commuter groups. Most New Yorkers, who remember being told just a few years ago that the increase to 20 cents was "only temporary", are skeptical that there will be a roll-back.

"The rich don't use these subways," one downtown shopper observed, "and the decision as to what fare we're gonna have to pay is theirs. That's all I have to know...."

While people without cars have no choice, more people are driving to work since the cost and nuisance of the subway jumped nearer the cost and nuisance of operating their cars. This comes at a time when air pollution and traffic jams are reaching

all-time highs inside the city. It also comes a few months before the city crosses the metered parking on midtown city streets off the list of already very scarce parking space.

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PEOPLE'S COURT TO HEAR CASE AGAINST ARMY BRASS

TACOMA, Wash. (LNS) -- A jury of active-duty GI's will listen to testimony on Jan. 21, and then decide whether or not the U.S. military brass is guilty of "the murder and oppression of the poor people of the world."

Witnesses will include active-duty GI's, former inmates of the military stockade system, victims of armyracism, Vietnam veterans, people who have faced U.S. military in America's ghettos, and experts on the methods of modern warfare.

The trial is a direct response to the Army's attack on the Shelter Half, the GI coffeehouse outside Ft. Lewis in Tacoma. The Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board is moving to place the Shelter Half off limits to all servicemen. The coffeehouse is charged with being a source of dissident literature, dissident counseling and "other activities" damaging to the morale, order and discipline of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Ft. Lewis is an embarkation point for Vietnam. As more and more GI's begin to question the legitimacy of the war, discipline has indeed become a problem on the base. The American Serviceman's Union has been organizing on the base for the past few months, and Fed-Up, the Ft. Lewis GI paper, has reached a circulation of 5,000.

Visions of masses of GI's refusing to ship out must terrify the brass. The action against the Shelter Half was reportedly initiated by Lt. Gen. Stanley Larson, who was responsible for the prosecution of the Presidio 27 last year.

GI organizers believe that if the attempt to place the Shelter Half off limits succeeds, the Army will move against the six other GI coffeehouses adjoining military bases across the country.

The trial of the Army brass had been organ-

ized by a broad coalition of anti-war groups from the Washington-Oregon area. Taped testimony has been taken in advance from a number of active-duty GI's in case Army authorities discover their identities before the trial and prevent them from attending. The trial has been set for 8:30 p.m. at the Hub Auditorium at the University of Washington campus in Seattle.

The following day there will be a demonstration at Sand Point Naval Air Station in Seattle, where the Army has scheduled a formal hearing to decide whether or not the Shelter Half should be placed off limits.

The address of the Shelter Half Coffeehouse is 5437 South Tacoma Way, Tacoma, Wa. 98409 (Tel. 206-GR-5-9875).

-30-

VIETNAM PROTEST HELD IN HONG KONG

HONG KONG (LNS) -- A gray-haired toothless Chinese man, well into his sixties, walked towards the group of demonstrators and took a leaflet, with its Chinese writing. The man wore the blue clothes that are the mark of the workers who shop in the China-product stores. He folded the leaflet neatly, put it away, and began fumbling in a shirt pocket. He walked to a Caucasian demonstrator, pulled out a well-used little Red Book, and shyly offered it as a gift.

The date was Dec. 14 and the place was the area in front of the world's largest U.S. Consulate, here in Hong Kong. Acting in solidarity with anti-war demonstrators the world over, more than 100 people were picketing and leafletting to protest U.S. aggression in Vietnam.

The protest, including a 24-hour vigil, involved local Chinese, Germans, Canadians, British and Americans. Two Vietnamese hippie high schoolers resident in Hong Kong joined in. They were dressed in American-issue camouflage uniforms and sandals and carried a poster written in Vietnamese: "Nixon must take all troops home immediately."

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AVENGE

FRED

HAMPTON

STRIKE 1970

Before 1940 there were no GE plants in Hudson Falls. Now there are two. If you calculate the amount of land being used for farming and the amount of land used for manufacturing, you would end up thinking that the area is predominantly agricultural. But that's not true. The factory dominates.



STRIKE 1970

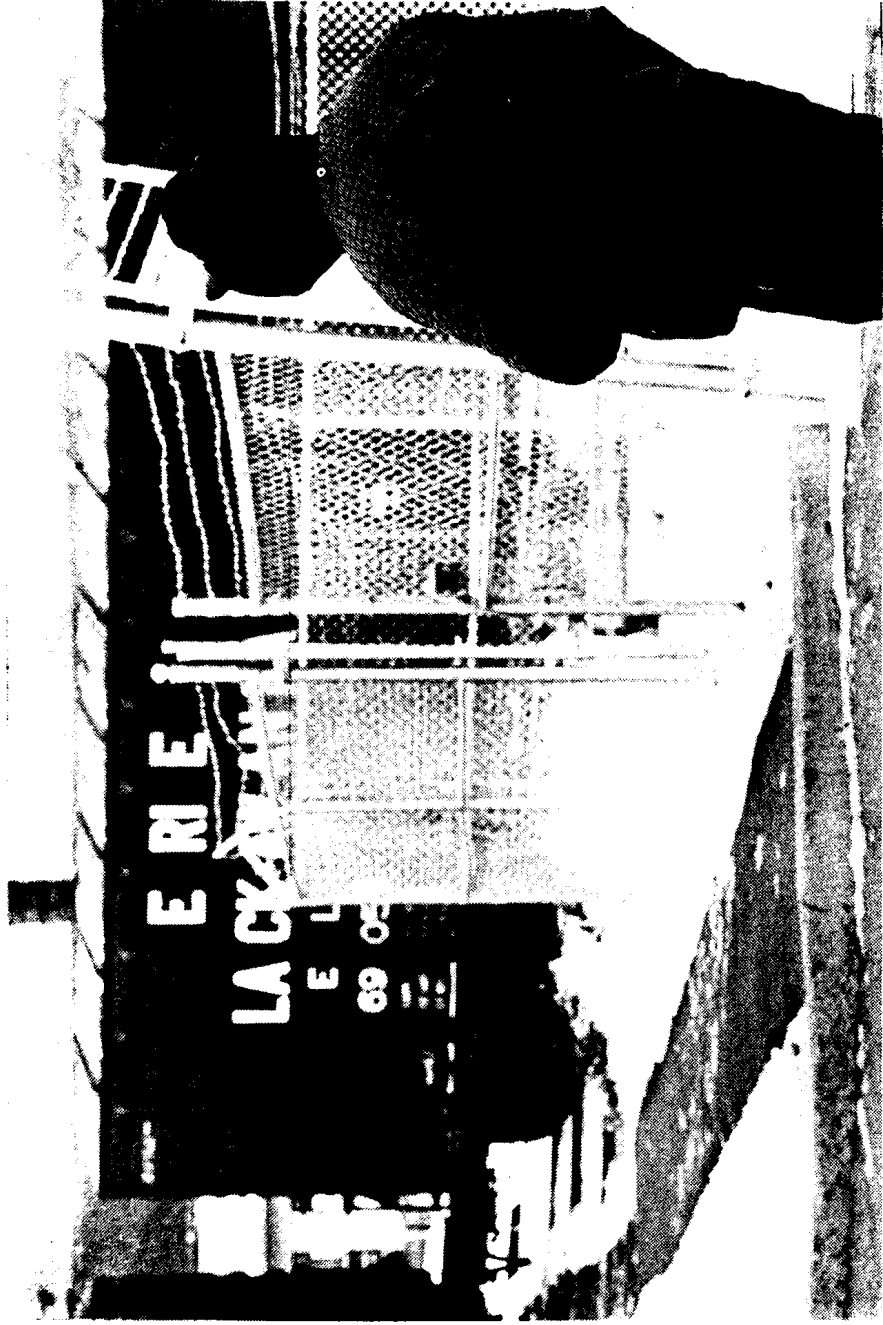
This photo essay extends from page P-1 through page P-9. The pictures were taken on a recent trip to Hudson Falls, N.Y., Ft. Edward, N.Y. and Ashland, Mass, sites of GE factories. We have laid it out in this fashion in order to have more impact, of course papers need not follow this format, but impressions and comments on the essay, and this style of photojournalism in general are welcome.

all photographs please credit Mike Shuster/LNS

One talked to me for a long time about nature photography, and asked for recommendations on equipment to buy. He admired my cameras. "Why are you taking pictures of us?" The other once talked about the possibility that he might be thrown out of his church because he stood up and said he was against the war. He laughed.



6:30 am. on a picket line.
Hudson Falls, N.Y.



Union meeting, monday morning, strike,
Ashland, Mass.



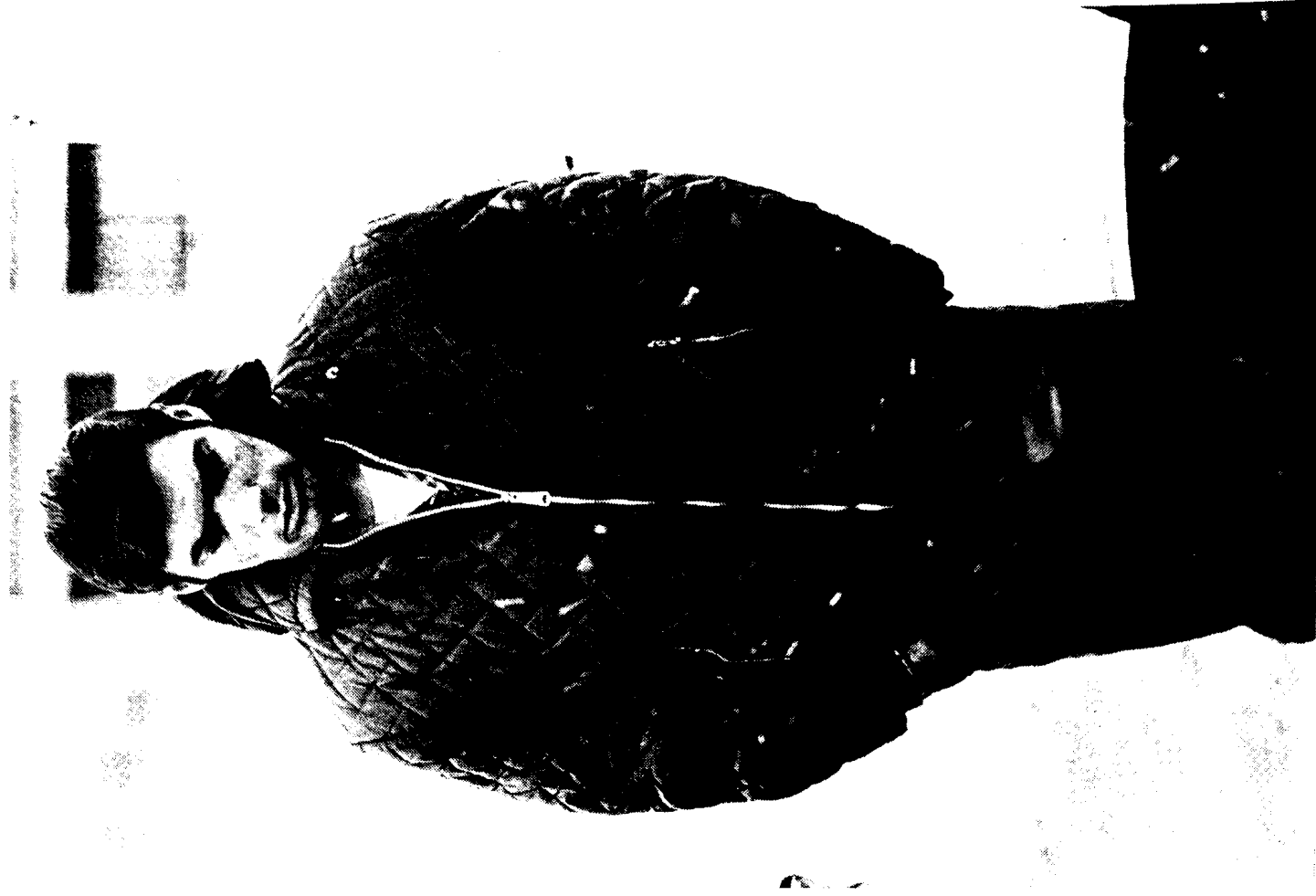
In a strike trailer, Ashland, Mass.
A sign over the door reads:
"Through this portal pass the greatest
pickets in the world.
Better believe it."



Bill Burrows, floor sweeper, Ashland plant.
 "Left Minnesota after high school in the 30's. Went to California to Fresno State Teacher's College for a couple months, but I left there. Been to China and Nicaragua with the Marines. Been with GE now for twenty-nine years now, last five as a sweeper since I pulled my back out on the floor."

Did the company help you out?

"The company? The company didn't give me nuthin."



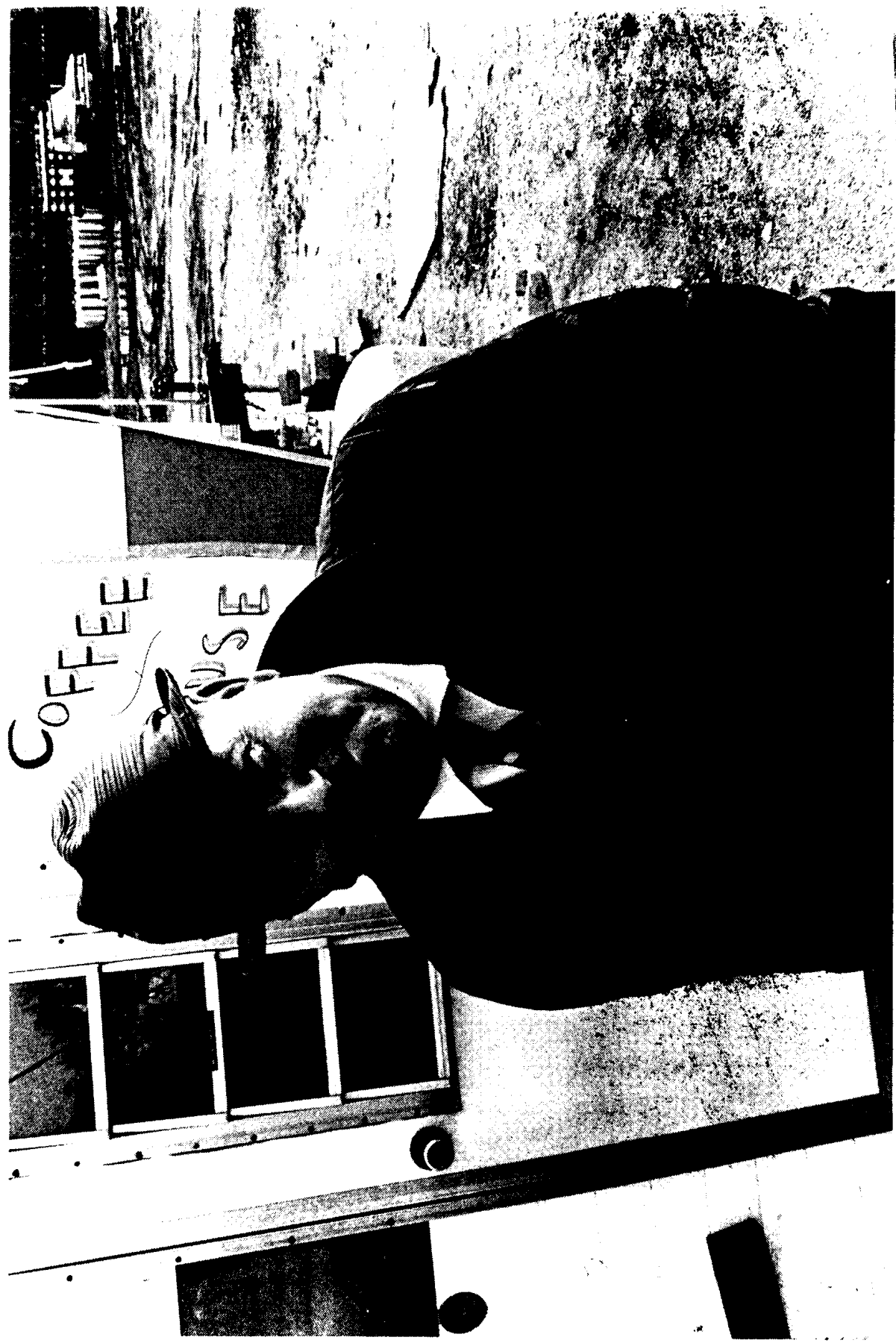
"I've looked for another job, I had a couple of interviews but they weren't too good. I could go to college on the GI bill, but I don't know what I want to do. And I don't want to go to school just to go to school. I'll probably never know what I want to do. I guess I'll end up staying at GE if I don't find another job--once you stay a while it's hard to leave."



Betty McDermott, assembler, Ashland plant.



Young striker,
Ashland, Mass.



John Callow, 64,
president UE local 205,
Ashland, Mass.



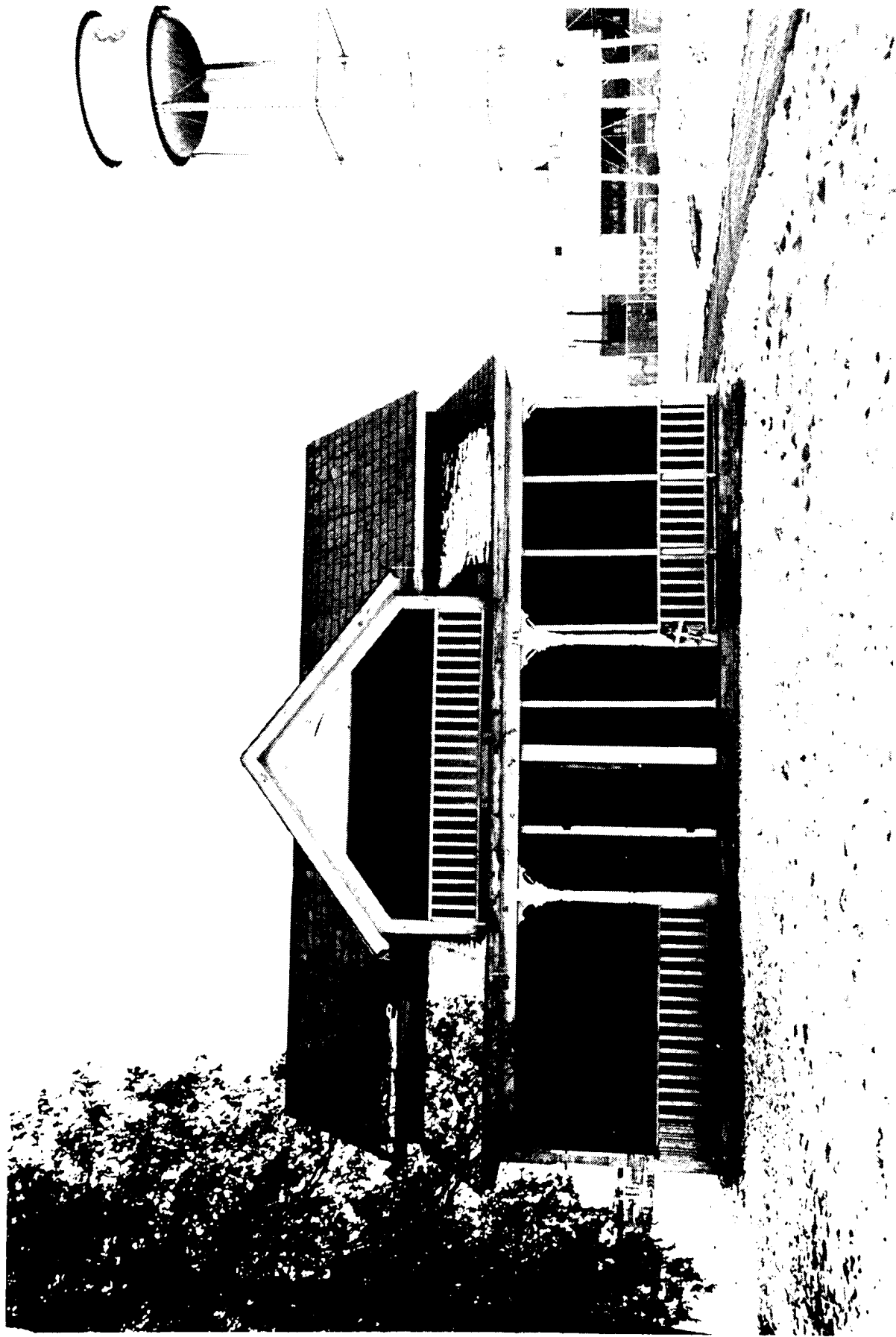
It snowed for a couple of days in upstate New York. We burned wood in barrels to keep warm. Our feet could've froze. Our clothes smelled like smoked ham.

Jesse, why do you come out here every morning at 6? "I don't know. If you believe in something, you should stand up and do it."

It's in the afternoon that you find out what's wrong. There's nothing to do. No work. Just waiting for hours, weeks, months to hear reports about the negotiations.

"The company would pay us \$1.60 an hour if they could, if there wasn't a union." But still in the afternoon in winter, it's very cold and gray, and there's nothing to do.





Ft. Edward GE plant, Ft. Edward, N.Y.
The company owns the land on which this house is built.
After the man dies who lives here, the company
is going to tear it down.

End of STRIKE 1970.

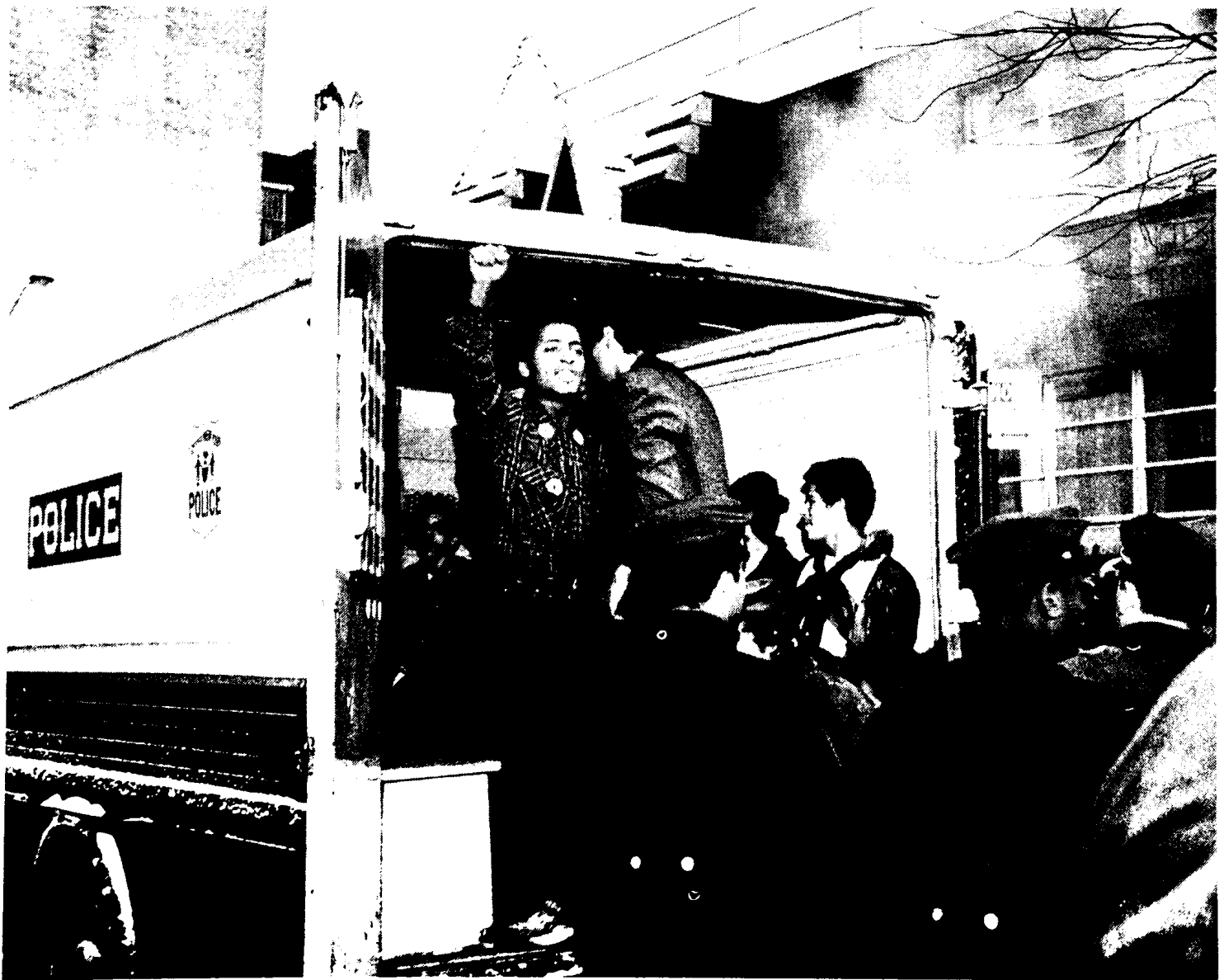


The following photos were taken at and around the People's Church, seized by the Young Lords. See story page 4 and last packet.

Top. The community gets a free meal -- the supper before the bust.

Bottom: Hours before the cops come, the Lords distribute free clothing.

Credit both photos to Barbara Rothkrug/LNS



People's Church ... continued...

Top -- Inside the church, people cheer in support of their comrades as police begin arrests, firm in their belief that "reactionaries are paper tigers."

Bottom -- People's resolute determination remains strong even while within pig clutches.

Credit both photos to Barbara Rothkrug/LNS



Top - People's Church continued.... story page 4

Police remove the door to the church from its hinges after spending some time in the freezing cold trying to get it open. Picture on the inside of the door is of the dead Che Guevara.

Bottom - The people of New York hold a turnstile-jumping festival to protest the raise of the subway fare. A splendid time was had by all.

Story page 23.

Credit both photos this page to David Fenton/LNS.